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## Slide of the Seminar

# On the multifractal structure of fully developed turbulence

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*ERC Advanced Grant (N. 339032) “NewTURB”  
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**On the multifractal structure of fully developed  
turbulence**

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## Navier -Stokes equation

$$\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t} + v_j \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_i} + \nu \Delta v_i$$

$$\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

hence  $\Delta p = -\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} \rightarrow$  “nonlocal” nonlinearity

## Eulerian structure functions

- ▶ Eulerian transverse structure functions:

$$S_n^\perp(l) = \left\langle \left| (\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{l}) - \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r})) \times \frac{\mathbf{l}}{l} \right|^n \right\rangle \propto l^{\zeta_n^\perp}$$

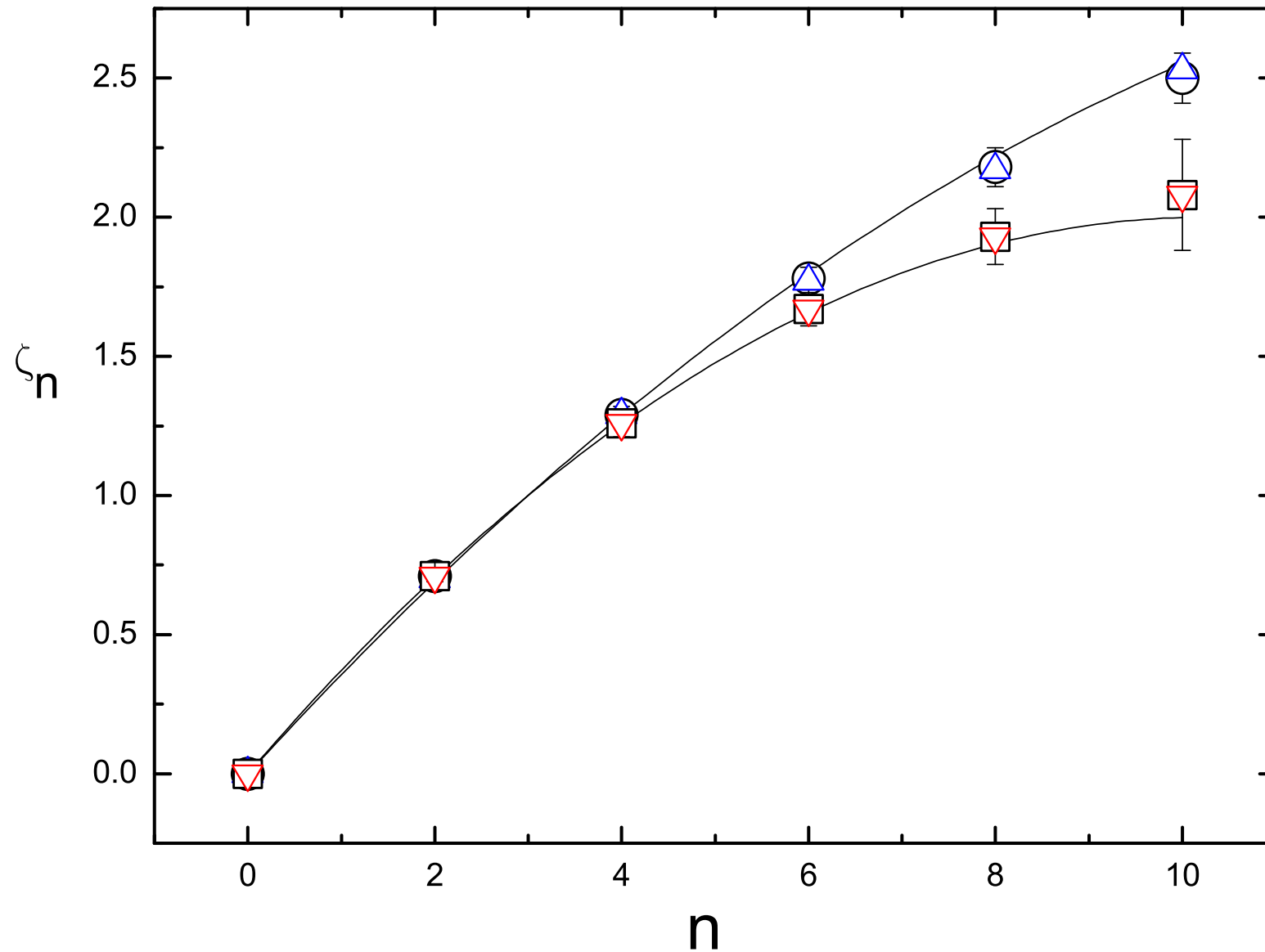
- ▶ Eulerian longitudinal structure functions:

$$S_n^\parallel(l) = \left\langle \left| (\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{l}) - \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r})) \cdot \frac{\mathbf{l}}{l} \right|^n \right\rangle \propto l^{\zeta_n^\parallel}$$

- ▶ Modern experiment and numerical calculations  $S_n : n \sim 8 - 10$
- ▶ there is **no** theory based on Navier Stokes equation
- ▶ exact result  $\zeta_{2,3}^\perp = \zeta_{2,3}^\parallel$
- ▶ theoretical expectations:  $\zeta_n^\parallel = \zeta_n^\perp$

**Numerical simulations** (Benzi et al. 2010, Gotoh et al. 2002)

$\zeta_n^{\parallel} \neq \zeta_n^{\perp}$  **poor accuracy ?**



## Kolmogorov (K41) theory

- ▶ stationary, locally isotropic and homogeneous turbulence in incompressible fluid
- ▶ inertial range – dimensional theory – cascade

$$\eta \ll l \ll L \text{ – Eulerian case}$$

- ▶ structure functions

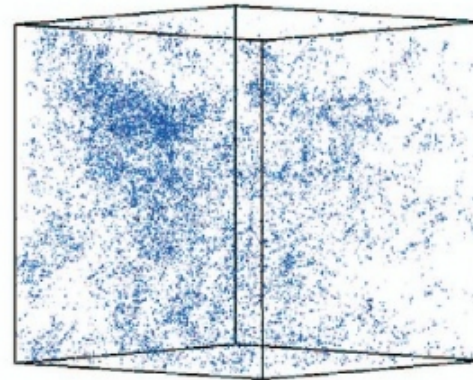
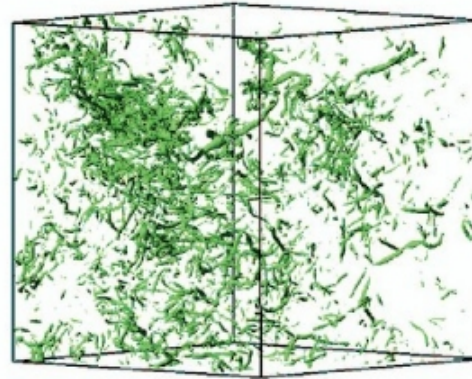
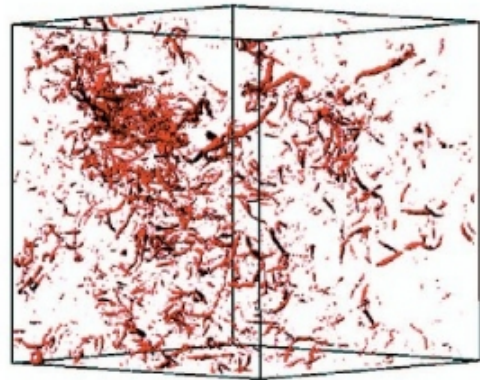
$$\zeta_n^E = n/3 \text{ – Eulerian case}$$

**experiment – anomalous scaling**

# Modern numerical simulations (M.Farge)

## Total vorticity

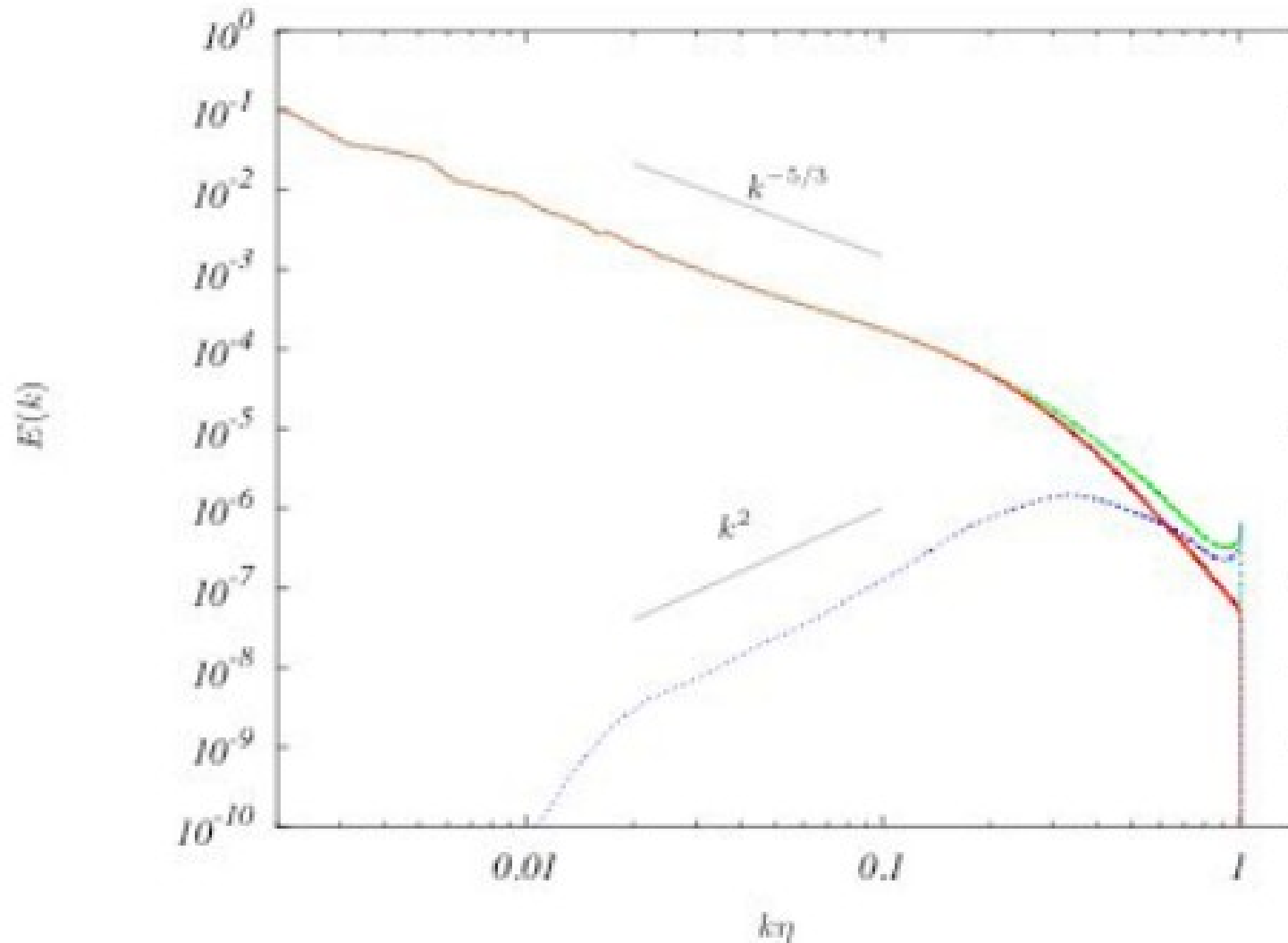
Coherent  
Vorticity  
2.6% N  
coefficients  
80%  
enstrophy  
99% energy



Incoherent  
Vorticity  
94.7% N  
coefficients  
20%  
enstrophy  
1% energy

**vortex filaments** –99% energy! 80% dissipation  
**life-time**  $100 \tau_c$

Okamoto et al., 2007 Phys. Fluids, 19(11)

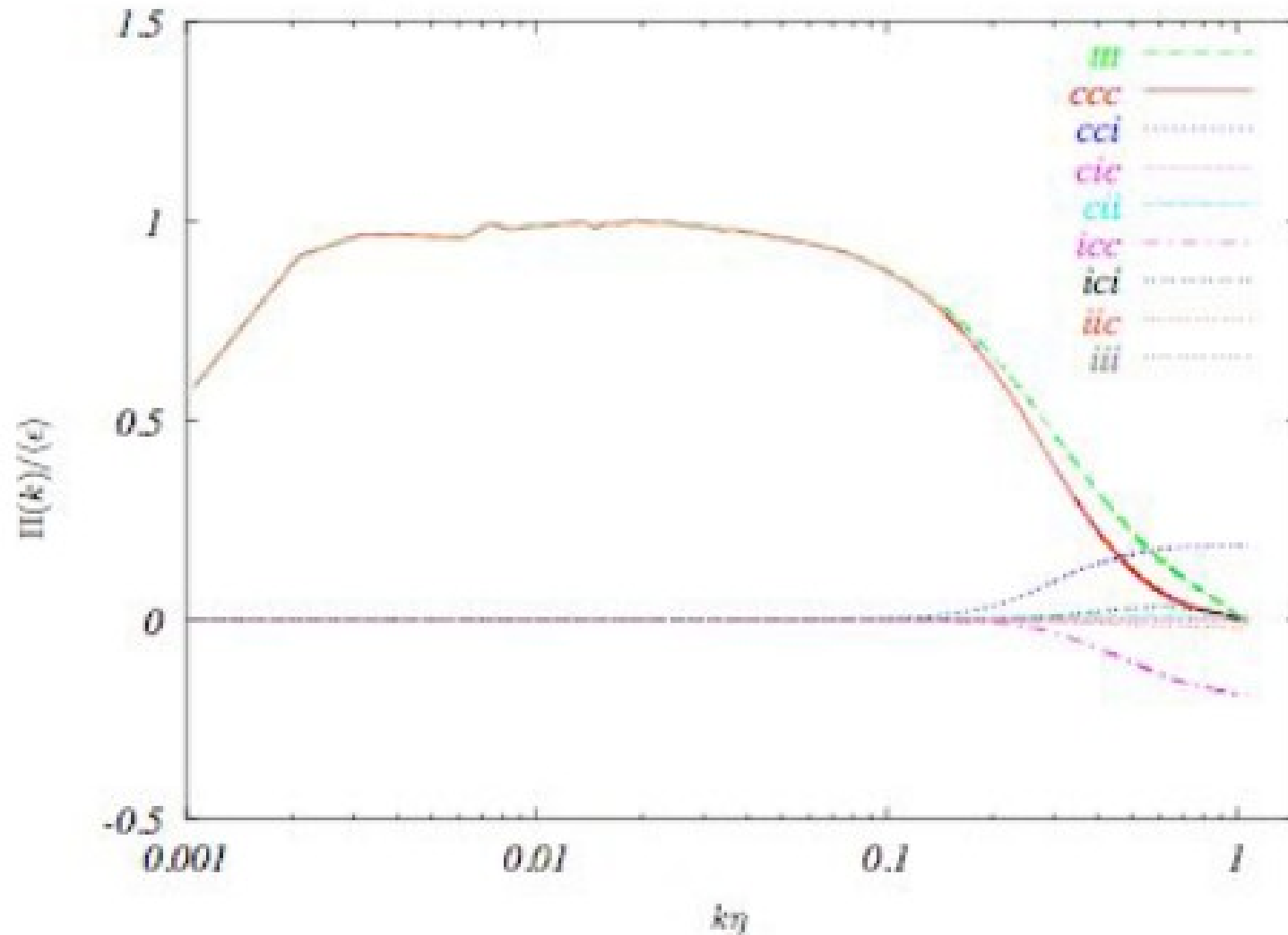




# Energy flux

incoherent input = 0

Okamoto et al., 2007 Phys. Fluids, 19(11)

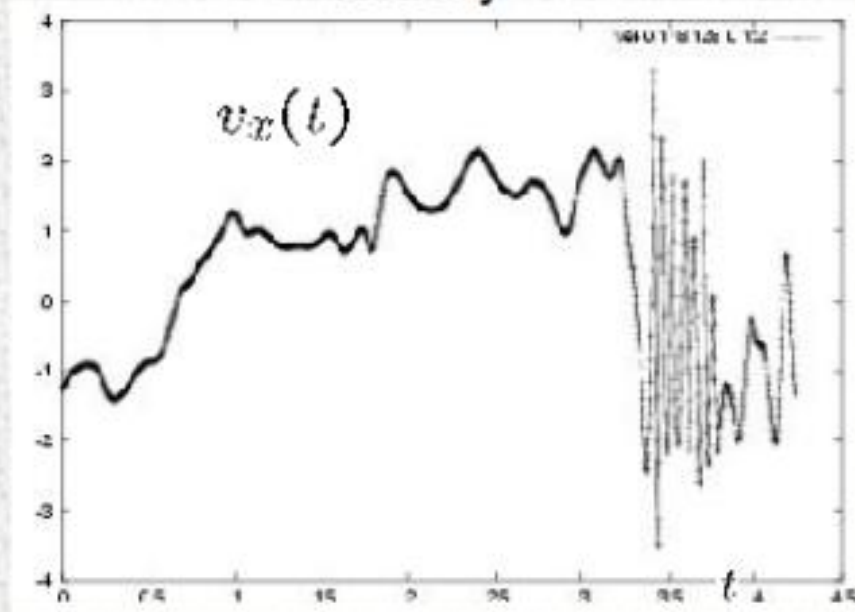


# Lagrangian trajectory (L.Biferale et al)

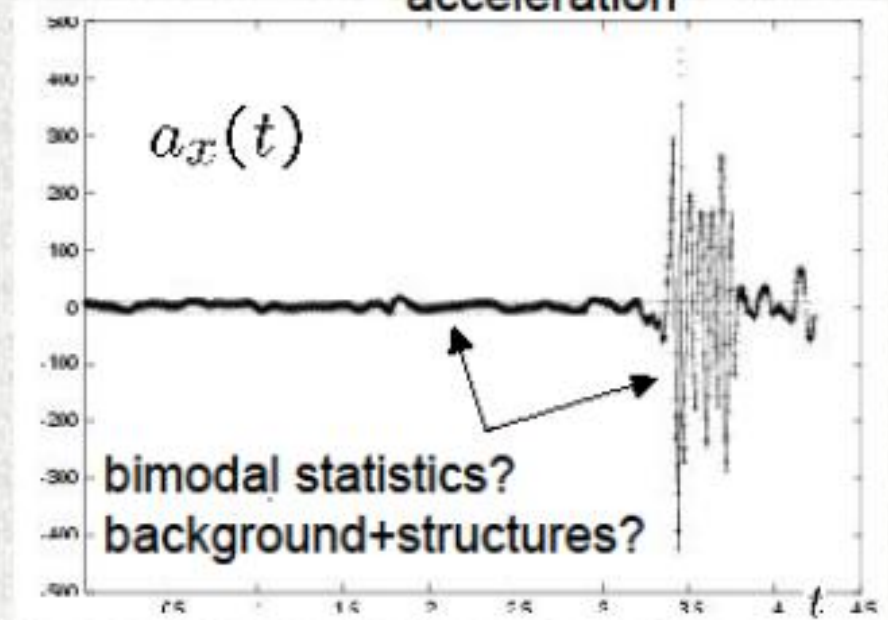
## TRAPPING INTO VORTEX FILAMENTS



velocity

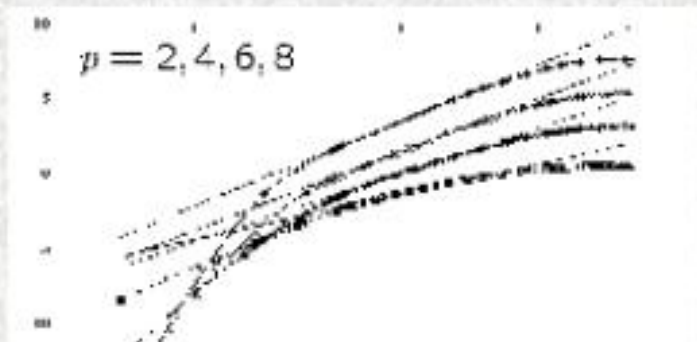


acceleration



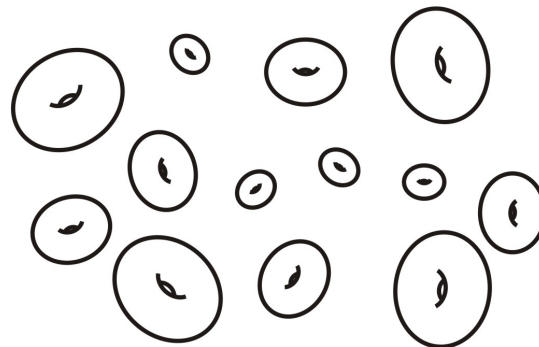
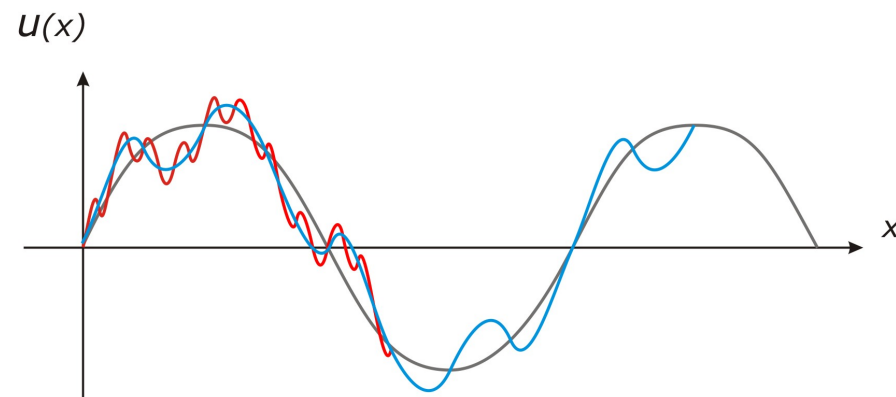
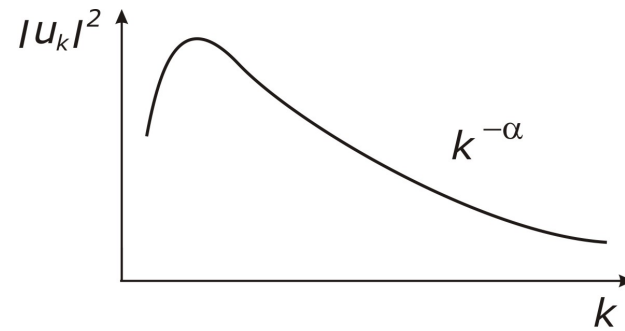
### Particle trapping in three-dimensional fully developed turbulence

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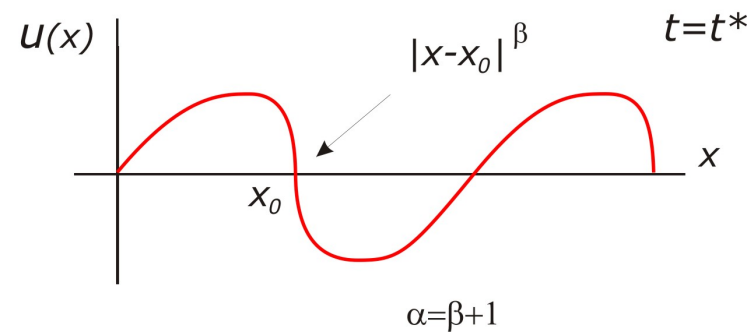
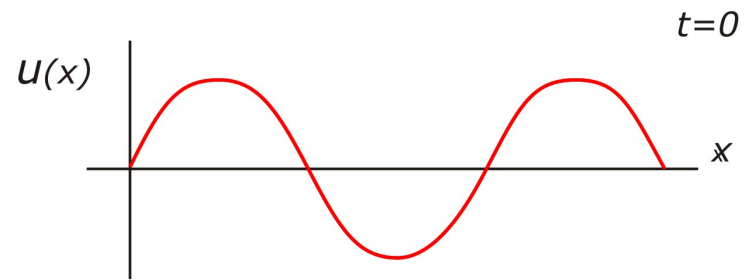
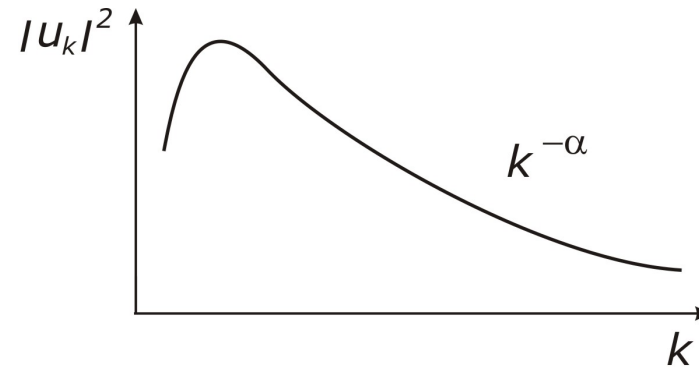
# Cascade versus Singularity

## ► Cascade



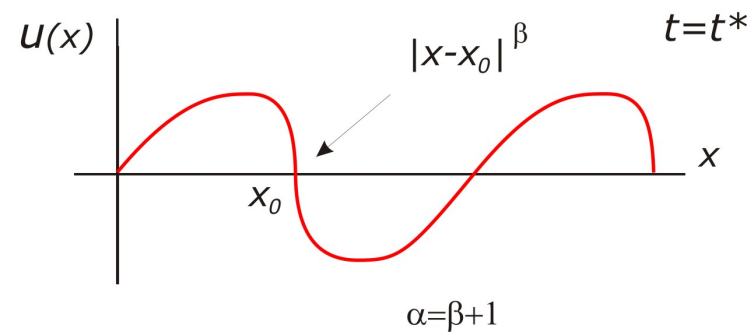
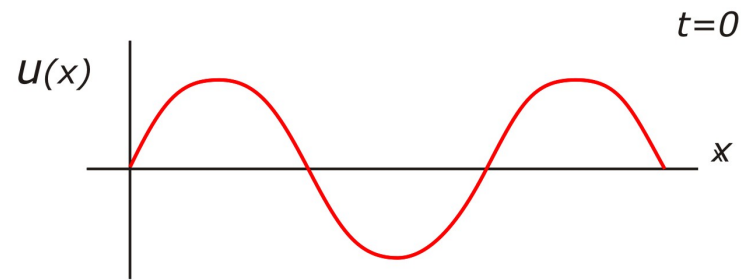
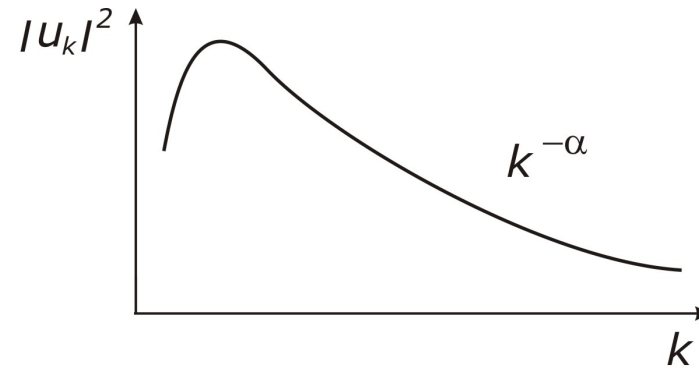
# Cascade versus Singularity

## ► Singularity

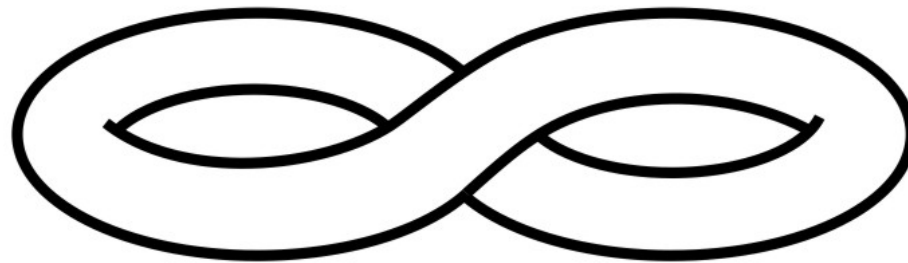
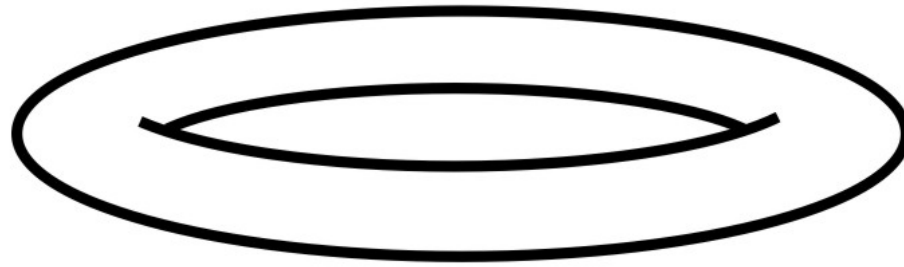
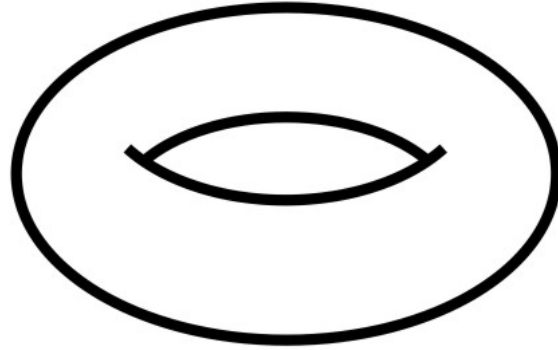


# Cascade versus Singularity

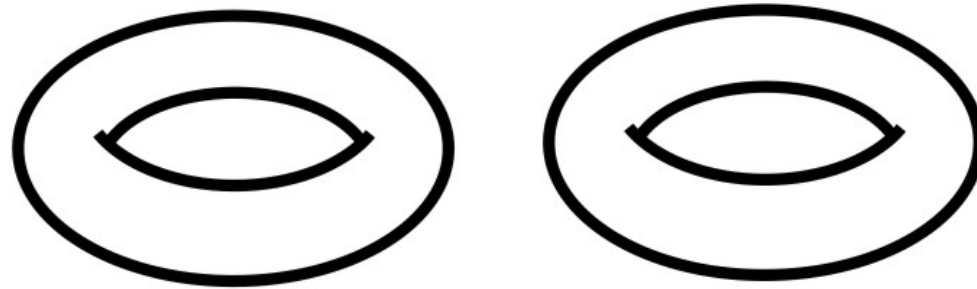
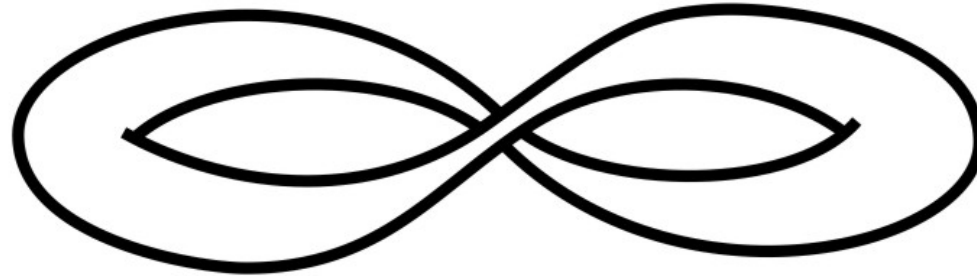
## ► Singularity



# Cascade



**Cascade is impossible without singularity**



## Multifractal model (*Parisi Frisch 1985*)

- ▶ The model generalizes the Kolmogorov theory (K41) to describe the observed nonlinear dependence of scaling exponents on their order
- ▶ Euler equations are invariant under the transformations

$$r \rightarrow r' = \gamma r, \quad v \rightarrow v' = \gamma^h v, \quad t \rightarrow t' = \gamma^{1-h} t$$

- ▶ assumption: determinative contribution to velocity structure functions is given by  $\delta v(l) \sim l^h$  (spectrum of singularities?!)

$$\langle \Delta v^n \rangle = \int |v^h|^{3-D(h)} d\mu(h)$$

- ▶ The introduction of “fractal dimension”  $D(h)$  follows naturally from the theory of large deviations

$$D_{\parallel}, \quad D_{\perp} ?$$

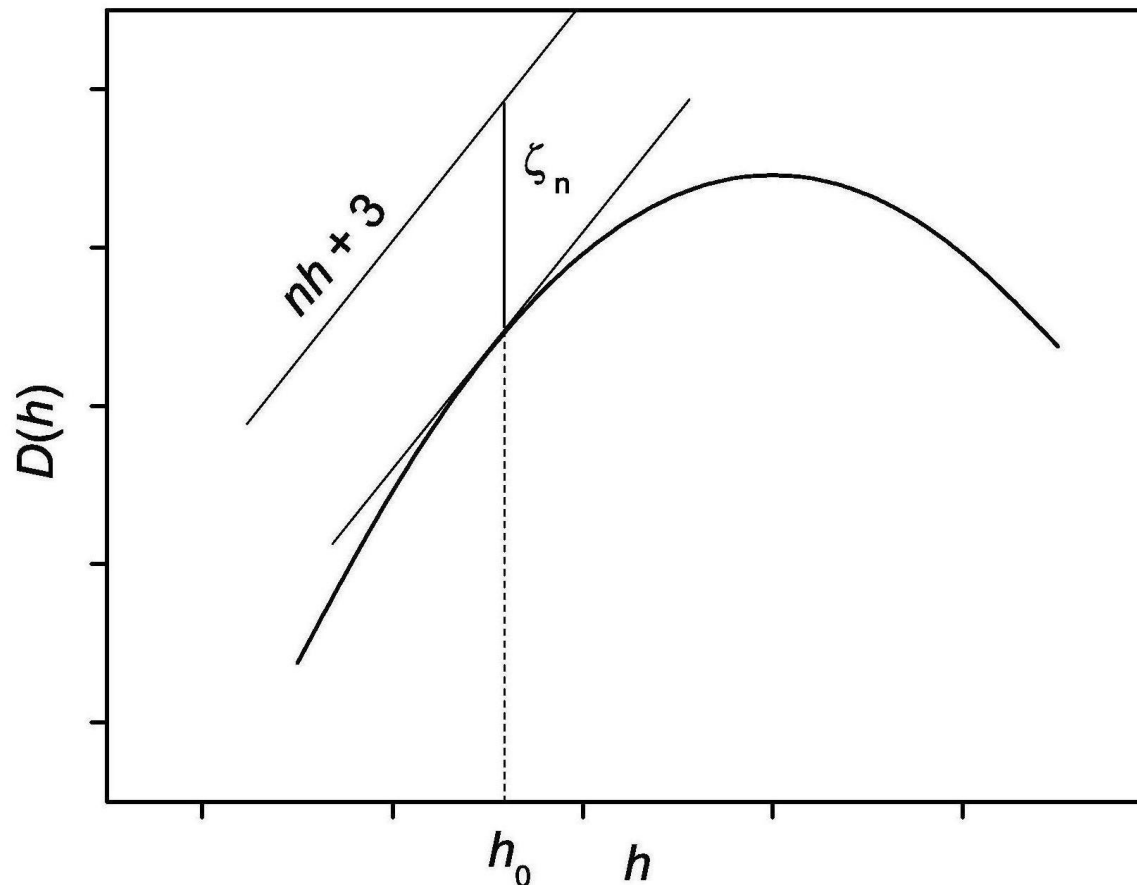


## Multifractal theory

- ▶ In the limit  $l \rightarrow 0$ , only the smallest exponent contributes to the integral

$$\zeta_n = \min_h (nh + 3 - D(h)) , \quad \lim_{l \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln \langle \Delta v^n \rangle(l)}{\ln l} = \zeta_n ,$$

- ▶  $\zeta_n$  relates to  $D(h)$  by the Legendre transformation



## The statement of the problem

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \nabla) \mathbf{v} = -\nabla P + \mathbf{F}(r, t) + \nu \Delta \mathbf{v}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

## Introduction of randomness

Let  $U_i(r, t)$  – some large-scale random velocity field

$$U_i(r, t) = \frac{1}{L^3} \int Q_i(\mathbf{r} + \boldsymbol{\rho}, t) e^{-\rho^2/L^2} d\rho, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{U} = 0$$

Now we **define** large-scale stochastic force  $F(r, t)$  by relation

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{U} \nabla) \mathbf{U} = -\nabla \pi + \mathbf{F}(r, t) + \nu \Delta \mathbf{U}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = 0$$

We substitute  $\mathbf{F}$  on the right-hand side of NS equation. Seek the solution in the form

$$\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad P = p + \pi$$

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{U}\nabla)u_i + (\mathbf{u}\nabla)U_i + (\mathbf{u}\nabla)u_i = -\nabla_i p, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

- ▶ This smoothed functions can be expanded in Taylor series for  $r \ll L$

$$U_i(r, t) = U_i(0, t) + A_{ij}(t)r_j + A_{ijk}\frac{r_j r_k}{L} \dots, \quad A_{ii} = 0$$

- ▶ In the limit  $L \rightarrow \infty$  but turnover time  $T = \text{const}$  only first two terms remain
- ▶ the velocity  $U_i(0, t)$  can easily be taken zero by choosing the reference frame
- ▶ NS equation takes the form

$$\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial t} + (A_{jk}r_k \nabla_j)u_i + A_{ik}u_k + (\mathbf{u}\nabla)u_i = -\nabla_i p, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

## Velocity fluctuations

let  $A_{ij}(t)$  be a random function of time

$$v_i = A_{ij}(t)r_j + u_i(r, t), \quad P = p + \nabla_i \nabla_j P(0, t)r_i r_j$$

$u_i(r, t)$  – velocity pulsation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_i + (A_{kj} r_j \nabla_k) u_i + A_{ik} u_k + (u \nabla) u_i = -\nabla_i p, \quad \nabla_i u_i = 0$$

this is the main equation of our theory

Asymptotic analysis (inviscid limit)

let  $u_i(r, t) = g_{i\mu}(t) w_\mu(X_\nu, t)$ ,  $X_\nu = q_{\nu\alpha}(t) r_\alpha$

where  $g_{i\mu}(t)$  and  $q_{\nu\alpha}(t)$  satisfy the equations:

$$\dot{g}_{i\alpha} + A_{ij} g_{j\alpha} = 0, \quad g_{i\alpha}(0) = \delta_{ij}$$

$$\dot{q}_{\gamma\nu} + q_{\gamma\mu} A_{\mu\nu} = 0, \quad q_{ij}(0) = \delta_{ij}$$

let  $A = A^T$ , hence  $g_{ij} = q_{ji}$  The equation then becomes

$$\frac{\partial w_\mu}{\partial t} + q_{\kappa\gamma} g_{\gamma\alpha} w_\alpha \frac{\partial w_\mu}{\partial X_\kappa} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial X_\mu}, \quad q_{\nu i} g_{i\mu} \frac{\partial w_\mu}{\partial X_\nu} = 0$$

## Asymptotic behavior of $q, g$

- ▶ discrete approximation ( $A = A^T$  is not required)  
let  $A_{ij}(t) = (A_n)_{ij}$  be constant inside each small ( $n$ -th) interval

$$q_N = e^{-A_1 \Delta t} \cdot e^{-A_2 \Delta t} \cdot \dots \cdot e^{-A_N \Delta t}$$

- ▶ production of  $N \rightarrow \infty$  unimodular matrixes

### The Theorem

Furstenberg, Tutubalin, Molchanov, Nechaev, Sinai ... see review  
Letchikov, UMN, v51, vypusk 1(307), 1996

- ▶ Iwasawa decomposition of the matrix  $q = z(q)d(q)s(q)$   $z$  is an upper triangular matrix with diagonal elements equal to 1,  $d$  is a diagonal matrix with positive eigenvalues,  $s$  is an orthogonal matrix

$$z(q_N) \rightarrow z_\infty$$

$$d(q_N) = \text{diag} \left( e^{\lambda_1 N + O_1(\sqrt{N})}, e^{\lambda_2 N + O_2(\sqrt{N})}, e^{\lambda_3 N + O_3(\sqrt{N})} \right),$$

$$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3, \quad O_1, O_2, O_3 \quad \text{Gaussian noise}$$

## Simplifications

- ▶ there is a strong exponential growth

$$(qg)_N = (qq^T)_N \simeq z_\infty d(q_N) z_\infty^T$$

$$d(q_N) = e^{2\lambda_3 N} \cdot \text{diag}(0, 0, 1) + O(e^{\lambda_2 N})$$

- ▶ we neglect the terms growing slower than  $e^{2\lambda_3 N}$
- ▶ introduce a new vector variable  $\mathbf{V} = C\mathbf{w}$ ;  $C_{ij}$  is a constant matrix

$$\left( \mathbf{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} \right) \mathbf{V} = -C \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} \Pi, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial \mathbf{X}} = 0, \quad P = e^{2\lambda_3 t} \Pi$$

Stationary equation without randomness. This is due to the chosen variables  $(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{V})$ ; the randomness remains in rotation

- ▶ in reality **nonlinearity depletion**

$$\left( \mathbf{V} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{X}} \right) \mathbf{V} \approx 0$$

- ▶ recent papers support it (Gibbon et al 2014), (Kuznetsov 2015)

## Analysis of the solution

- ▶ To understand the properties of the solution , we have to rewrite it back in laboratory coordinates  $(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{u})$ .
- ▶ To separate the stochastic rotational part of the solution, we make one more change of variables

$$\mathbf{r}' = s\mathbf{r} , \quad \mathbf{u}' = s\mathbf{u}$$

after some manipulations

$$u'_i = e^{\lambda_i t} V_i(e^{\lambda_1 t} r'_1, e^{\lambda_2 t} r'_2, e^{\lambda_3 t} r'_3)$$

(no summation is assumed)

- ▶ in the rotating coordinates  $\mathbf{r}'$ , the asymptotic solution is not random
- ▶ As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , the third component  $u'_3$  dominates, and the solution stretches exponentially with different coefficients along different axes
- ▶ We now take the curl to find vorticity

$$\omega' \simeq \omega'_1 = e^{-\lambda_1 t} f \left( e^{\lambda_3 t} r'_3 \right)$$

- ▶ since  $\omega' = s\omega$ , the absolute values of vorticities are equal in the two frames, so  $\omega = \omega'$

## Analysis of the solution

- ▶ vorticity (and velocity) is transported from boundaries to the center
- ▶ in stationary conditions vorticity (and velocity) can't grow exponentially in a finite volume

$$\langle u^2 \rangle = \frac{1}{V} \int_V u^2 d^3 r \Big|_{t \rightarrow \infty} = \sum_j \frac{1}{V} \int_{V_j} u^2 d^3 r > n \cdot \text{const} \cdot e^{\lambda_{\min} t}$$

- ▶ Thus, in stationary conditions vorticity (and velocity) can grow exponentially in some points only
- ▶ we have to demand that at some boundary point (see below)

$$\omega(t, L) \sim 1$$

- ▶ With account of the boundary condition,  $f(e^{\lambda_3 t'} L) \sim e^{\lambda_1 t'}$ , for any  $t'$ ; choosing  $t'$  as  $e^{\lambda_3 t} r'_3 = e^{\lambda_3 t'} L$

$$\omega(t, r'_3) \propto \left( \frac{r'_3}{L} \right)^{\lambda_1 / \lambda_3}$$

It is valid for  $r'_3 > L e^{\lambda_3(t_0 - t)}$ . At smaller  $r'_3$ , the vorticity  $\omega$  is determined by the initial condition



## Simple model

- ▶ 'straighten' the random flow, excluding the matrix  $s$  (without rotation)
- ▶ Simplifications: fix diagonal  $A_{ij}$  and  $u = u(x, t)$

$$v_x = a x, \quad v_y = b y + u(x, t), \quad v_z = c z, \quad a + b + c = 0$$

One can get the exact equation for vorticity

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + a x \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} - c \omega = 0$$

- ▶ Let also  $a < 0$ ,  $b > 0$ ,  $c = -(a + b) > b$
- ▶ the boundary condition  $\omega(t, 1) = 1$  The solution takes the form

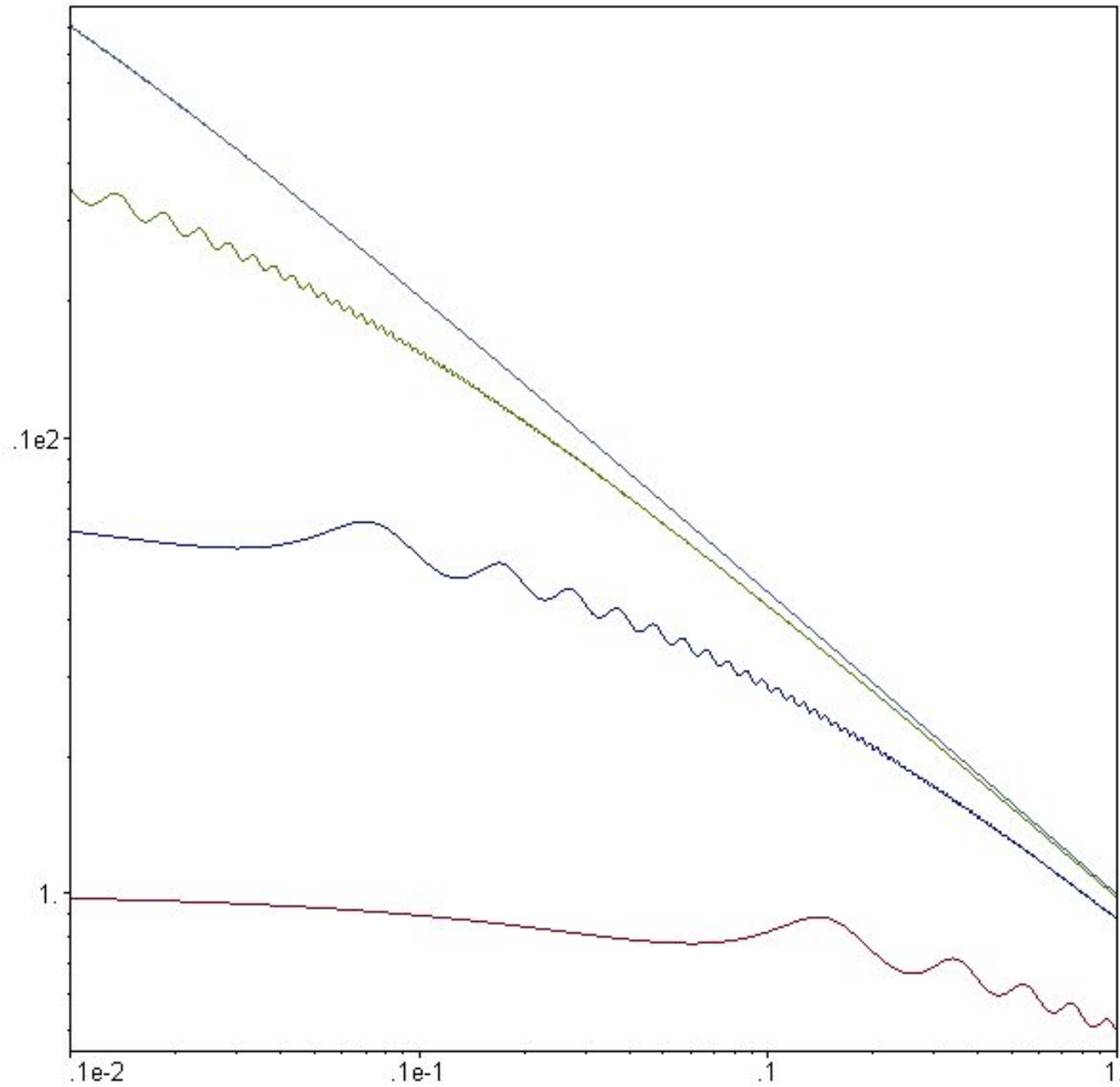
$$\omega(t, x) = e^{c(t-t')} \omega(t', 1) \Big|_{t'(x)=t-(\ln x)/a} = x^{c/a}, \quad x > \bar{x}(t) = e^{at}$$

$$\omega(t, x) = e^{ct} \omega_0(x e^{-at}), \quad x < \bar{x}(t)$$

- ▶ If the boundary condition is  $\omega(t, 1) = f(t)$

$$\omega(t, x) = x^{c/a} f\left(t - \frac{1}{a} \ln x\right) \rightarrow_{t \rightarrow \infty} x^{c/a} f(t)$$

## Example of the solution



## Evolution of spectrum

- ▶ The idea of cascade is based on power-law spectrum
- ▶ Let initial distribution of vorticity be

$$\omega_0(x) = (1 + ix)^{c/a} + (1 - ix)^{c/a}$$

The Fourier transform of this function is

$$\omega(k, t) = |k|^{b/a} e^{-|k|e^{at}}, \quad a < 0$$

- ▶ The spectrum falls exponentially at  $k \sim \bar{x}^{-1} = e^{-at}$
- ▶ Stationary fluctuations if  $k \ll \bar{x}^{-1}$

The result is similar to the effect of viscosity, but cutoff depends on time

## Effect of viscosity

- ▶ It is easy to generalize and include the viscosity

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} + ax \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} + bu(x, t) = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

- ▶ Changing to the variable  $q = xe^{-at}$  we get

$$\frac{\partial \omega(q, t)}{\partial t} - c\omega(q, t) = \nu e^{-2at} \frac{\partial^2 \omega}{\partial q^2}$$

The Fourier transformation gives

$$\omega(k, t) = e^{-bt} \omega_0(ke^{at}) e^{\frac{\nu}{2a} k^2 (1 - e^{2at})}$$

- ▶ For the example of initial condition considered in the previous slide

$$\omega(k, t) = |k|^{b/a} e^{-|k|e^{at}} e^{\frac{\nu}{2a} k^2 (1 - e^{2at})}, \quad a < 0$$

## Introduction of stochastics

- ▶ According to the Theorem, the stochastic generalization has the form

$$\frac{\partial \omega}{\partial t} + (a + \xi_1(t))x \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} - (c + \xi_2(t))\omega = 0$$

$\xi_1(t)$  and  $\xi_2(t)$  are Gaussian delta-correlated random processes

- ▶ The probability density

$$dP[\xi_1(t), \xi_2(t)] = e^{-\frac{1}{2D_1} \int \xi_1(t')^2 dt'} e^{-\frac{1}{2D_2} \int \xi_2(t')^2 dt'} \prod_t d\xi_1(t) d\xi_2(t)$$

the solution is

$$\omega(t, x) = e^{c(t-t') + \int_{t'}^t \xi_2(t'') dt''} \omega \left( t', x e^{-a(t-t') - \int_{t'}^t \xi_1(t'') dt''} \right)$$

- ▶ For  $x = 0$ , taking  $t' = 0$ , we get

$$\omega(t, 0) = e^{ct + \int_0^t \xi_2(t'') dt''} \omega(0, 0)$$

## stochastic solution

- ▶ hence

$$\langle \omega(t, 0)^n \rangle = e^{nct + n^2 D_2 t / 2} \omega^n(0, 0)$$

This characterizes the solution inside the non-stationary inner region with growing vorticity

- ▶  $\bar{x}$  of the non-stationary region is determined by the condition

$$\bar{x} e^{-at - \int \xi_1 dt} \simeq 1$$

But at  $t \rightarrow \infty$ :  $\int \xi_1 dt \propto \sqrt{t}$  hence  $\bar{x} \simeq e^{at} \rightarrow$

$$\langle \omega^n \rangle = x^{nc/a} \int e^{\int \left( -\frac{\xi_2^2}{2D_2} + n\xi_2 \right) dt} \prod_t d\xi_2(t) \omega^n(t', 1) \propto x^{n\frac{c}{a} + n^2 \frac{D_2}{2a}}$$

- ▶ scaling of velocity moments is

$$\langle \Delta v^n(l) \rangle \sim \langle \omega^n \rangle l^n \sim l^{\zeta_n}, \quad \zeta_n = -\frac{b}{a} n + \frac{D_2}{2a} n^2$$

## Discussion 1

- ▶ Average large-scale exponents  $\lambda_i$  determine the scaling (fractal) behavior of the solutions, while fluctuations of these exponents  $\xi_1(t), \xi_2(t)$  produce multifractality
- ▶ **Stretching of the vortex filaments is the main process.** Maximal stretching ( $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) is

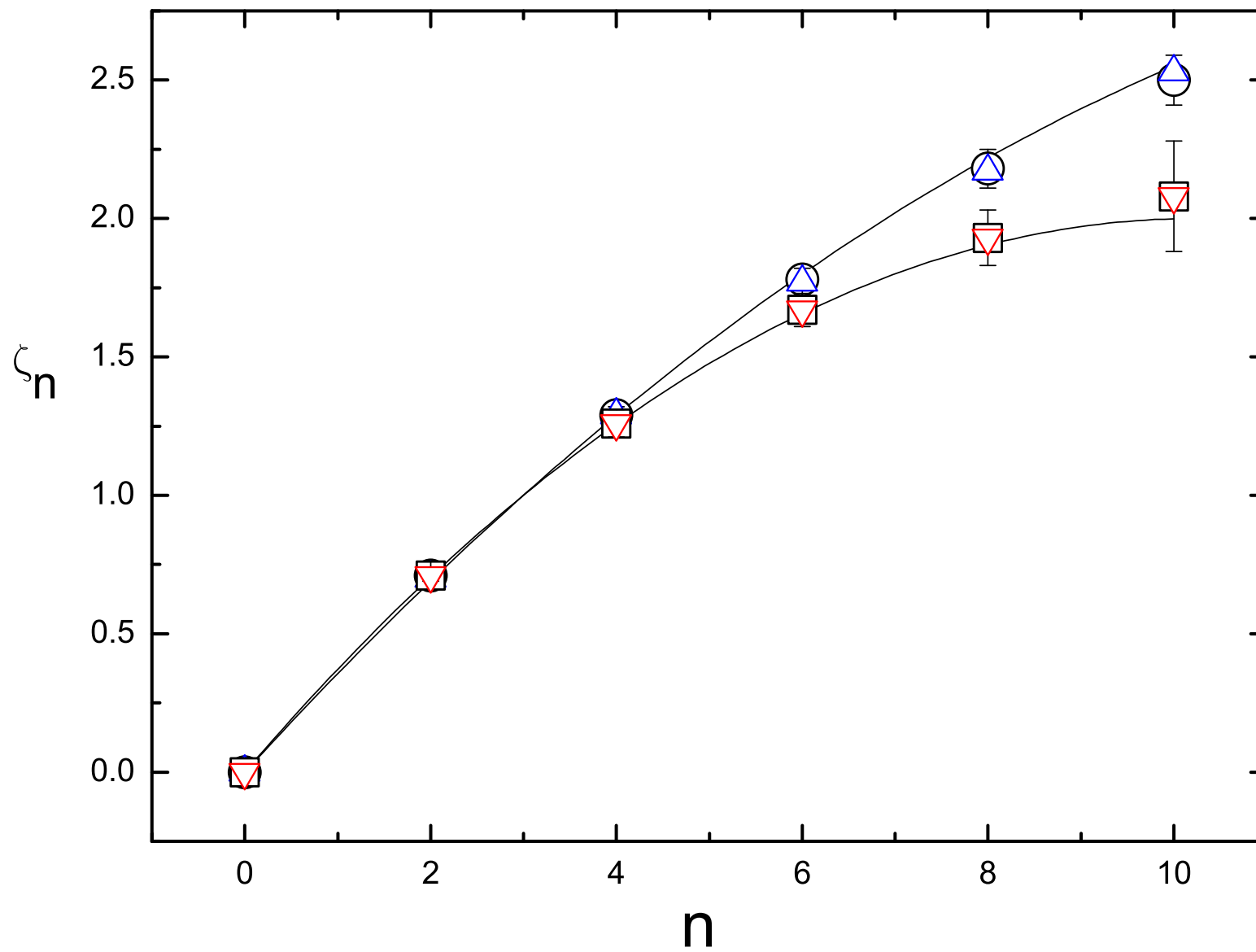
$$\mathbf{v} = \frac{[\mathbf{e}_z, \mathbf{r}]}{r}$$

- ▶ Structure functions

$$S_n^{\parallel} = 2\sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{n}} \frac{l^2}{en^2}, \quad S_n^{\perp} = l^2 \frac{2^n}{n} \ln \frac{R}{l}$$

- ▶ At  $n \rightarrow \infty$  there is a strong difference between  $\parallel$  and  $\perp$  exponents
- ▶ in simulations  $\xi_{\parallel} > \xi_{\perp}$  longitudinal – sub-leading term !?  $S_{\infty}^{\parallel} = 3$
- ▶ Taking into account  $\xi_3 = 1$  one can get all structure functions

# the result





## Discussion 2

- ▶ The main process is stretching of the vortex filaments, but not vortices breaking
- ▶ If  $P(A) = P(RAR^{-1})$  and  $P(A_{ij}) = P(-A_{ij})$  the exponents are  
 $\lambda_1 = -\lambda$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_3 = \lambda$
- ▶  $\lambda_2 = 0$  because the transformation  $A \rightarrow -A$  is time reversal, but it is not true for turbulence – there is energy flux flowing into small scales

$$\langle \Phi \rangle = \left\langle \int V^2 \mathbf{v} ds \right\rangle \propto A_{ij} A_{jk} A_{ki} \propto \det A$$

- ▶ Hence  $\lambda_2 \neq 0$  and  $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3$
- ▶ Simple model  $a < 0$ ,  $b > 0$ ,  $c > b$  corresponds to correct sign of energy flux

## The assumptions and simplifications

- ▶  $r \ll L$  is not important, the approximation improves with time
- ▶  $\omega(1, t) = f(t)$  the structure function exponents do not change for any  $f(t) < e^{\kappa t}$
- ▶ nonlinear dependence of structure function exponents on  $n$  are calculated for small  $D_2$  only  $(D_2 n / (2b) \ll 1)$
- ▶ depletion of nonlinearity  $(v \nabla) v$  is obtained for the case  $A^T = A$  in this case

$$q g (v \nabla) v = q q^T (v \nabla) v \propto e^{2\lambda_3 t} z_{\infty} \text{diag} (0, 0, 1) z_{\infty}^T (v \nabla) v$$

- ▶ if  $A^T \neq A$  but  $P(\Omega) = P(-\Omega)$ ,  $2\Omega = A - A^T$  in this case

$$q = z_{1\infty} d R_1(t), \quad g = R_2^{-1}(t) d z_{2\infty}^T$$

and nonlinearity

$$q g (v \nabla) v \propto e^{2\lambda_3 t} R_{33}(t) z_{1\infty} \text{diag} (0, 0, 1) z_{2\infty}^T (v \nabla) v,$$

rigorous analysis gives  $\lambda_2(A) < 0$

- ▶ so, the result looks general

▶ **THUS:**

- ▶ We believe that  $\xi_{\perp}^n < \xi_{\parallel}^n$  for some  $n > N_*$

**IN THIS CASE:**

- ▶  $\xi_{\perp}^n$  is the leading asymptotic term  $\xi_{\parallel}^n$  is sub-leading term
- ▶ It is very difficult to construct theory for sub-leading terms

**WE EXPECT:**

- ▶ to calculate  $\xi_{\perp}^n$ , to get saturation and to find saturation level directly from NS equation.
- ▶ unsolved problem **why  $\lambda_i$  are universal?**